THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Family violence.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: ...family violence, *sati*, immoral traffic, indecent representation of women, etc. The suggestion made here is that there should be courts in which magistrates should be women and such cases should come up before those courts. Madam, we are not able to get enough women magistrates. That is also a problem, Madam. Somebody has suggested that there should be reservation in the category of magistrates for women. This is also worth considering whether by doing that we can get the services of a larger number of women to serve as magistrates. I am looking into this matter.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am sure, Mr. Minister, if you discuss it with the law Minister you will find the ways because there are many women and girls who have gone into study of law and they will be available.

My observation is that there is no will. If there is a will there is always a way. If there is no will, then there are so many impediments which come in the way. Today I had the will to allow this question. Even though the Question Hour was over, I allowed it because there was a will and a women was sitting over here. I am sure if there was a man sitting over here, he would have said the Question Hour was over. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Madam, we are all with you in this *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: One women is controlling the entire House, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure, and not with your support; On this issue you should have spoken that there are crimes against women.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: I have already spoken, Madam. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You should have said that there is harassment, there are crimes, there are family crimes

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Sinking of South Korean Ship in Hooghly River

*204. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem "Koreans fume, CPT bosses take it easy" in Economic Times, dated 25th June, 1997, regarding sinking of South Korean liner "MV Green Opal" in the Hooghly river;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether any rejoinder has been issued by Calcutta Port Trust authorities; and

(d) the present status of salvage operation of the ship?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) the report appears biased and not based on facts.

(c) No. But the Correspondent of the paper was briefed about the correct position.

(d) Calcutta Port Trust has taken necessary steps for undertaking the salvage operations by the Insurer of the Vessel "M.V. Green Opal" on behalf of the owners at their own cost.

Escalation of LCA project cost

*205. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the LCA project's original cost in 1983 was Rs. 560 crores but seventeen years later, the cost has risen to Rs. 2,000 crore; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?